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Ye old Falls Hous

THE . OLD . FALLS . HOUSE .

LOCATED AT NEW WINDSOR, NEAR NEWBURGH, N. Y.

A COLLECTION of pen sketches made in and around the old building on Sunday, the fourteenth of January, nineteen hundred fourteen, a few days previous to its destruction by fire. Drawn by Sid Turner, Newburgh Journal Staff Artist.

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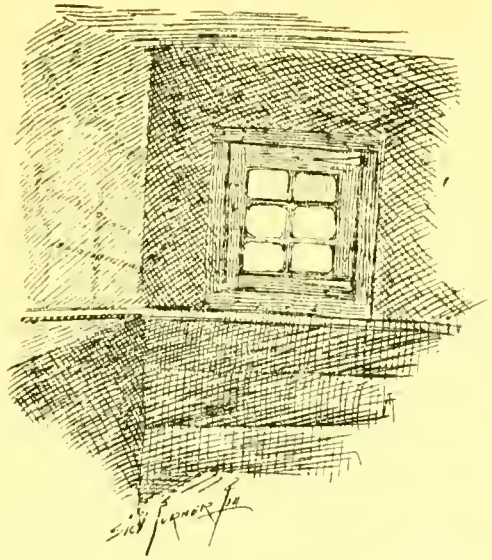
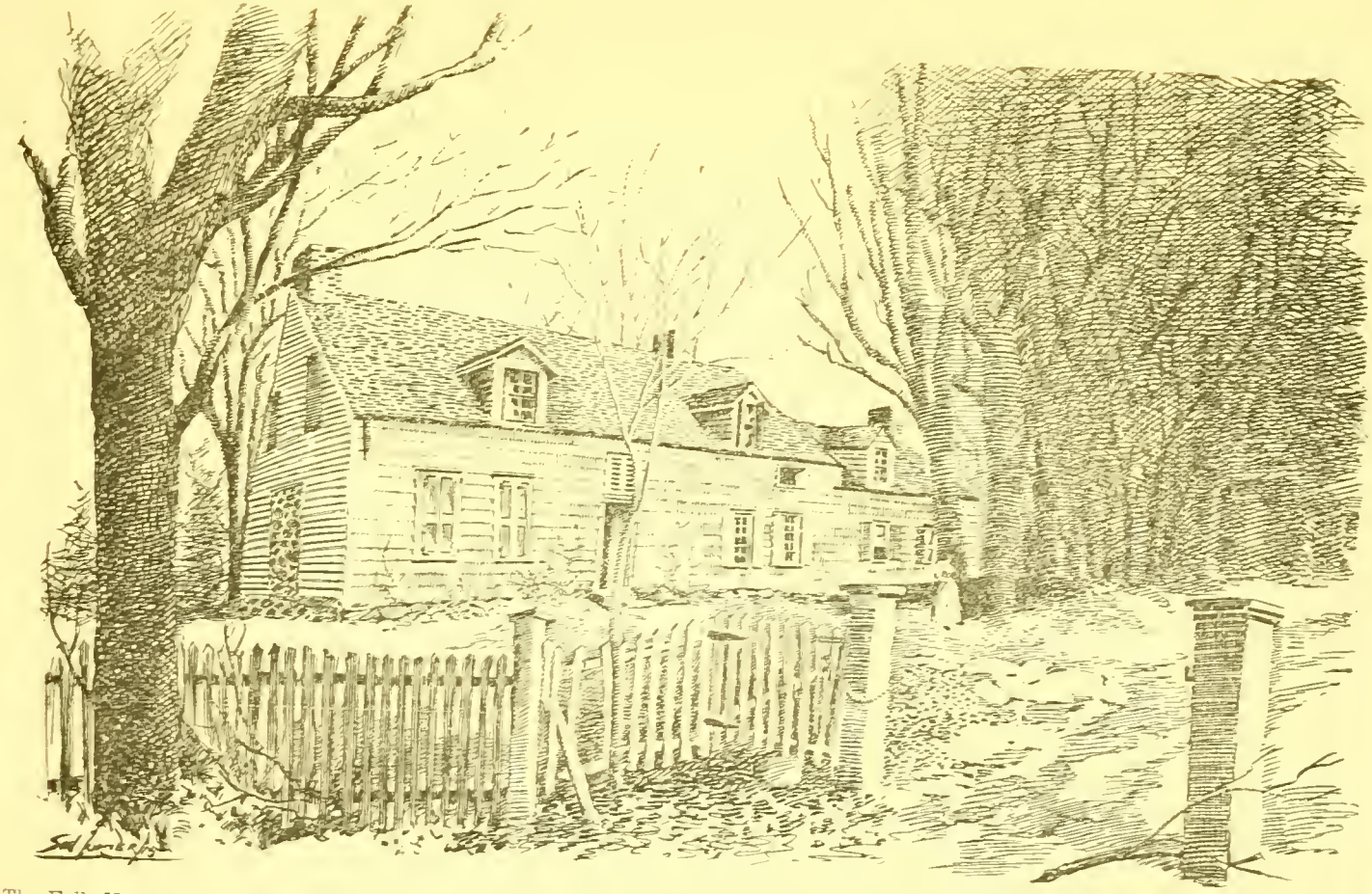


The object of this book is not to give a history of the Fall's House, or as formally known, the "Hermitage," but merely to preserve a semblance of the exterior and interior of the old building as it was at the time of its destruction. The many beautiful and quaint bits of Colonial workmanship, sketched at random by the artist will serve their purpose, it is hoped, now and for future generations.

WM. M. STANBROUGH.

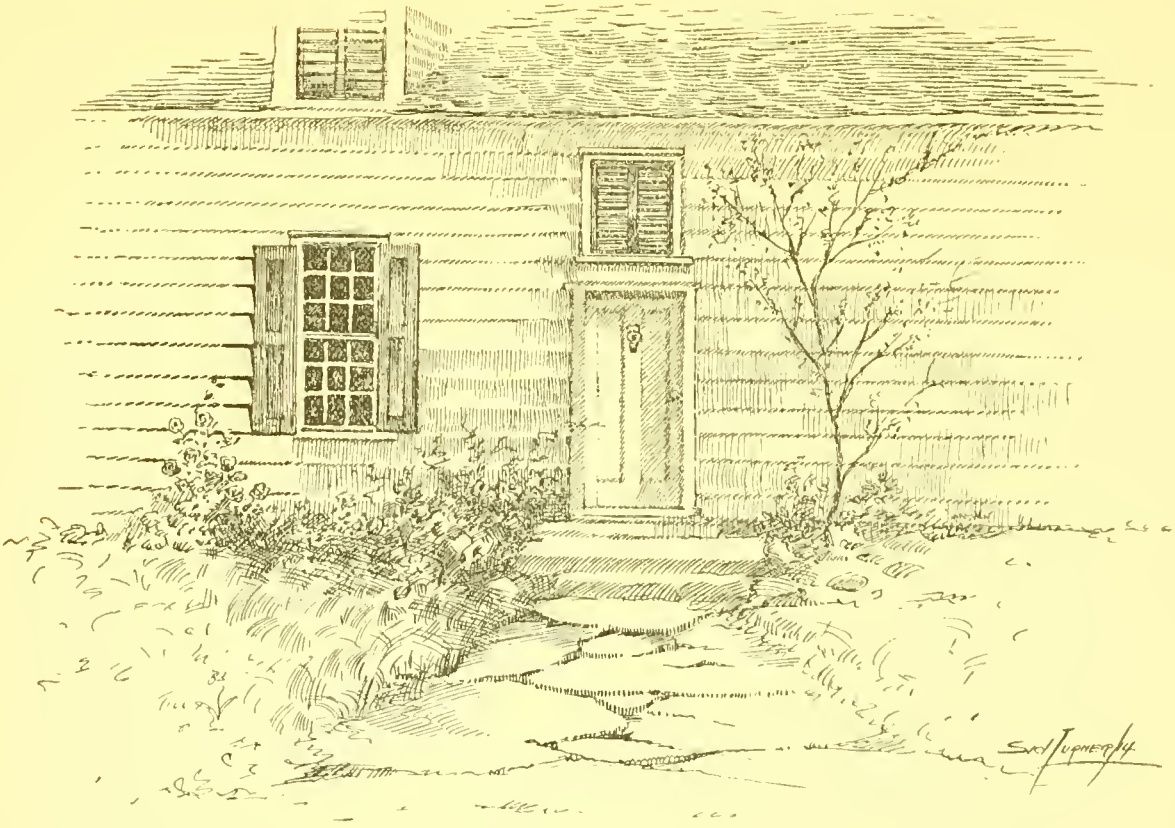
Gov. George Clinton's Headquarters, New Windsor, near Newburgh, N. Y. Gen. Clinton's letters dated at Mrs. Fall's Oct., 1777, accounts for this house being called the "Fall's House."



The Falls House
1720—1914

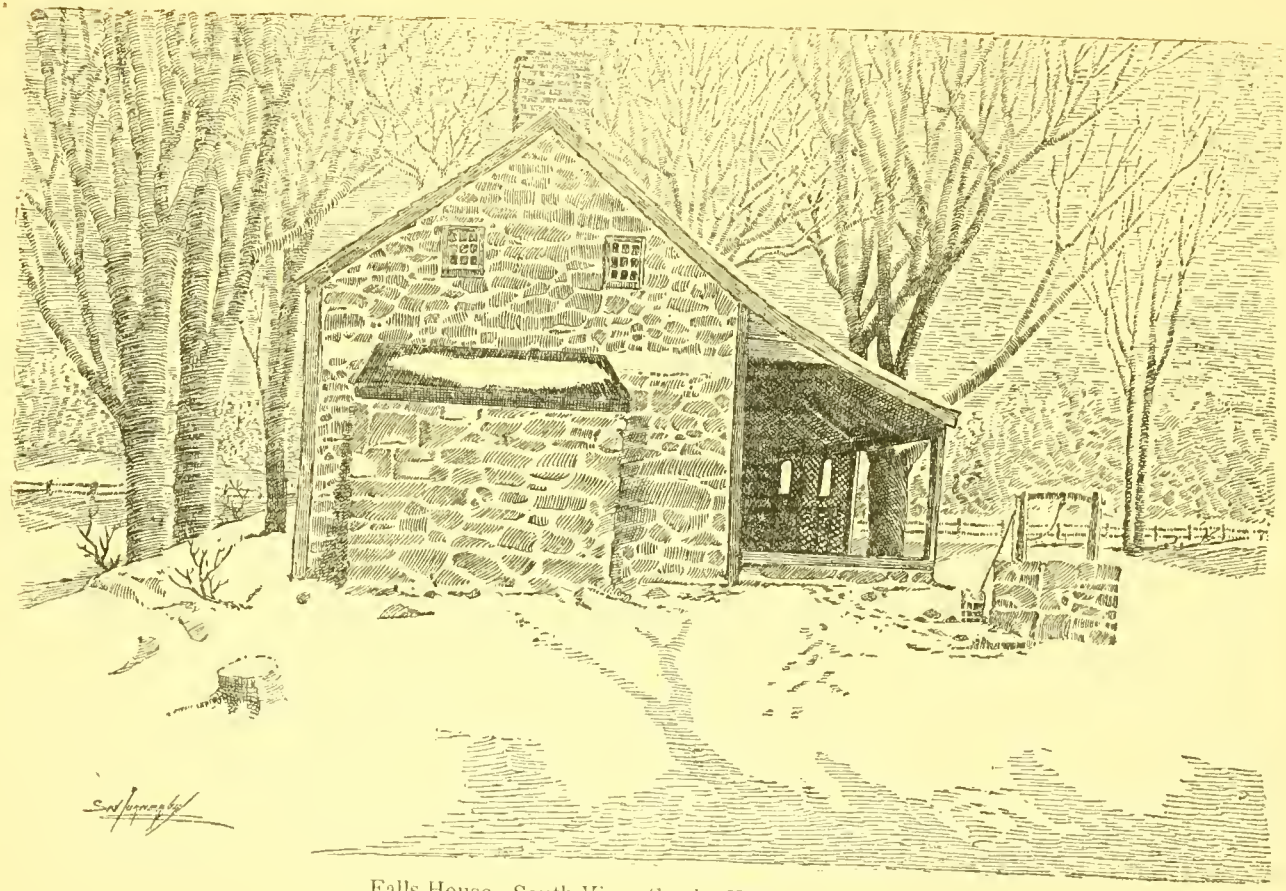
"THE HERMITAGE"
Headquarters of Gen. George Clinton—1777—1782-83

West entrance to Fall's House. "Through this door more Continental officers and soldiers passed than through any door in the Thirteen Colonies." This house was an Inn.

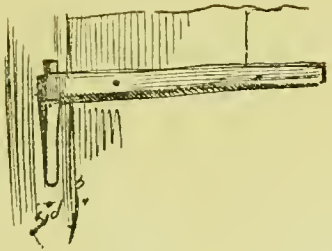


Falls House—West Entrance

South end oldest portion. The small building being a Smoke House connected with Fireplace in house for convenience of disposal of ashes. Built about 1720.



Falls House—South View, Smoke House Attached

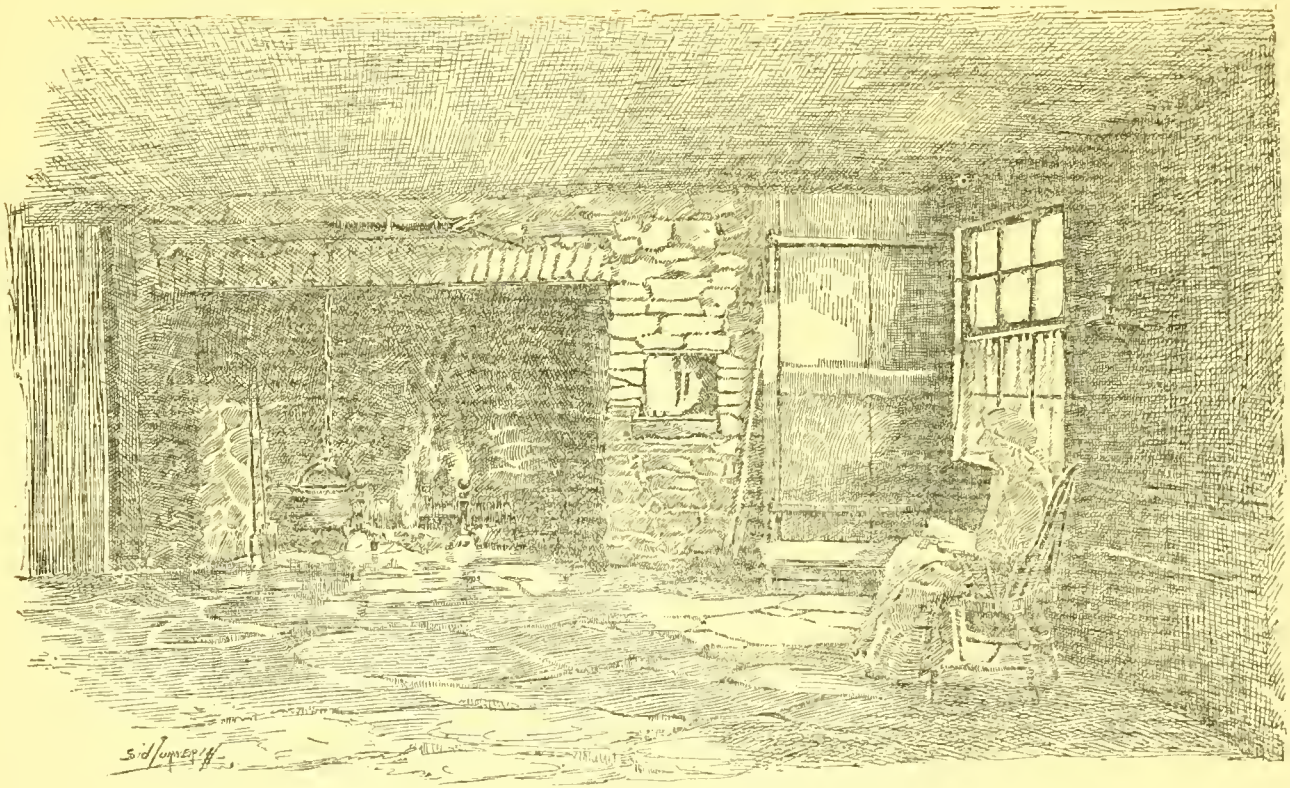


The Kitchen probably built as early as 1719, possibly earlier, the builder did his work well. Ruskin says, "That old buildings do not entirely belong to the present but those that build them, even though passed away, have rights in them that should be respected." This kitchen, to the thinking mind, is a thing alive, "the flames that up the chimney roared," again are felt,—the oven in which the fire of willow sticks was kindled again burns as brightly, the odor of the bread and pies smell as good in imagination as of yore,—the stone hearth that almost becomes a stone floor, so large is it, speaks of the days of utility, before show became the fashion.

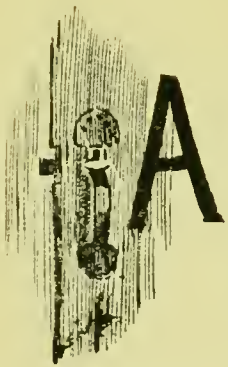
The door with the wooden hinges speaks as strongly of utility, the making the best of means at hand. Note the width of board in door and remember that the tree from which it was cut grew in the immediate vicinity.

"The Alarm, the Struggle, the Relief
Then sleep we side by side."

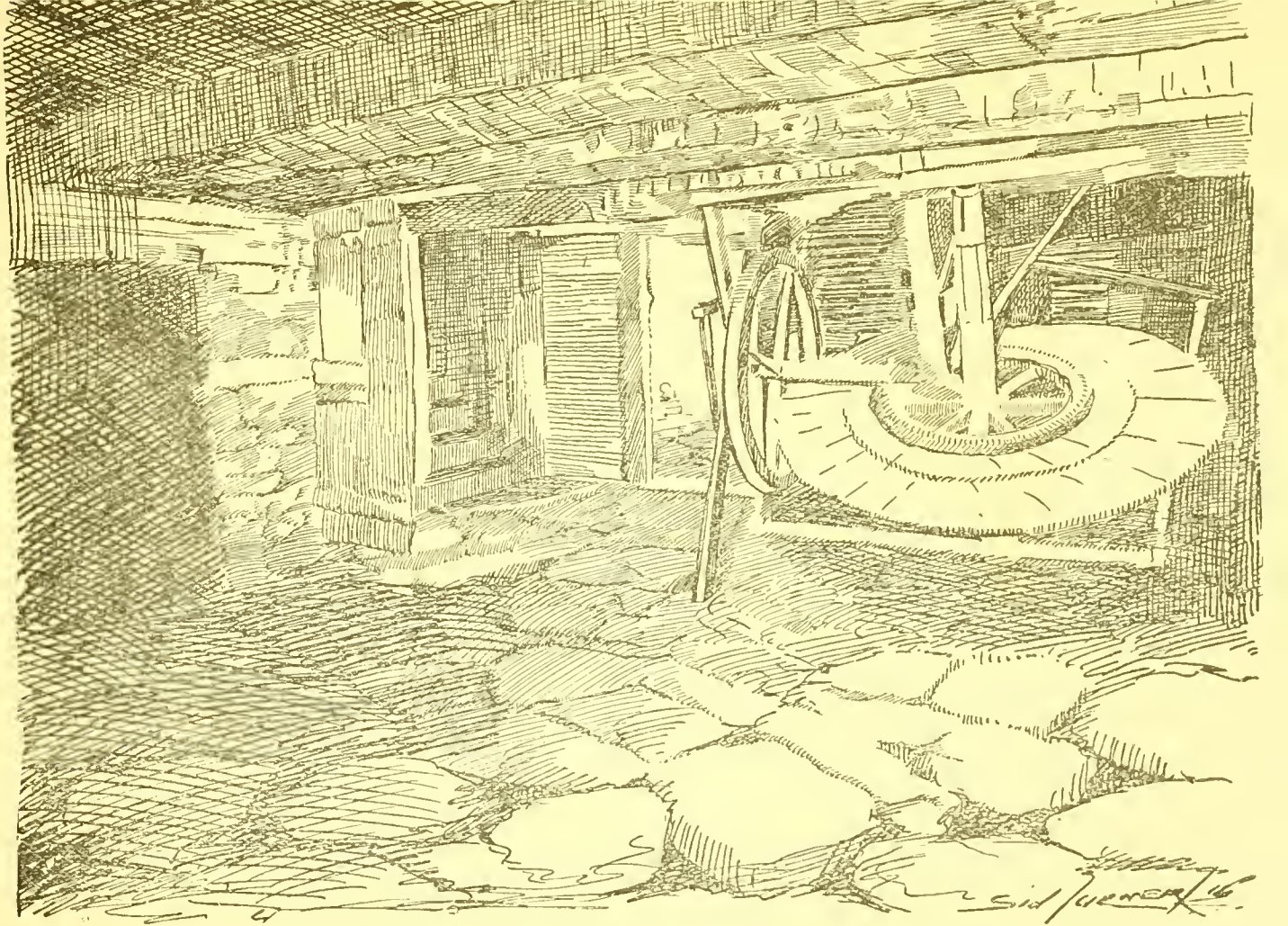
—Longfellow.



Kitchen of Falls House—Door with Wooden Hinges

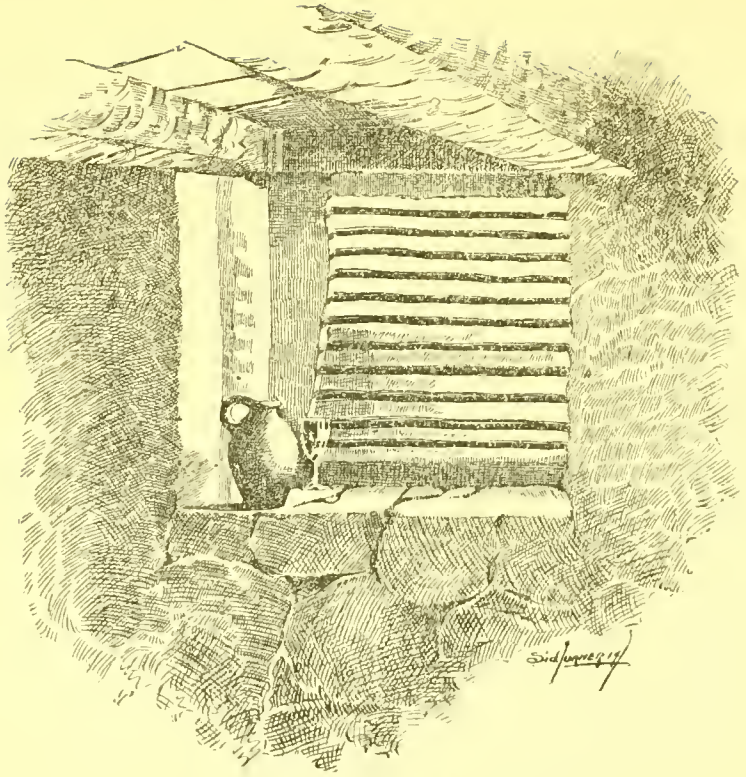


S for the old cellar it is perhaps one of the most interesting parts of the old building, having remained untouched for over a century. The rough hewn beams overhead, the open fire place and flagged floor, together with the treadwheel churn for dog or sheep power, gave the place a real air of Colonial days.

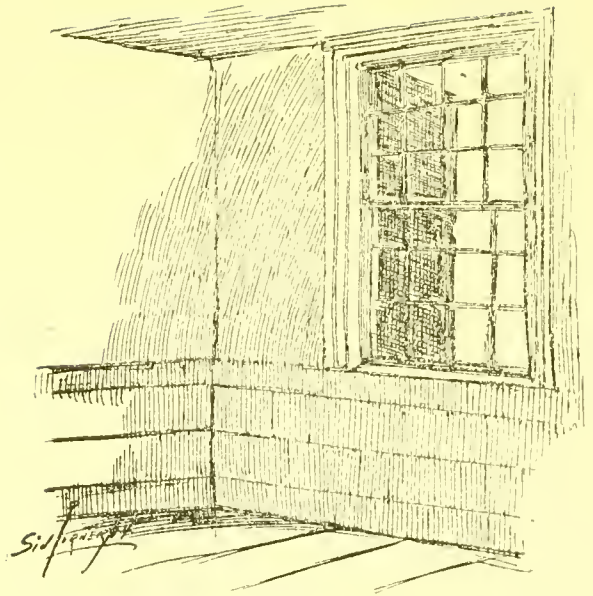


Falls House, Slaves Kitchen—Treadwheel to Furnish Power to Operate Churn

Window in Slaves' Kitchen. Beams support room occupied by Gen. George Washington.



Falls House—Window in Slaves Kitchen



Falls House—Window in Washington's Room

Falls House—Closets in Clinton's Room

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